1/3/69

Dear Paul,

This is the first, too-hasty set of memos on prospective witnesses. Any comment or suggestions?

Enclosed is a copy of a leaflet Louis sent to me by mistake. He intended it for you. If you have no independent recollection of this, it is probable that this is a copy of a copy he got from the N.O. police files, as I may have asked him. I do not recall.

I have spoken to both Nichols and Wecht. Each has agreed to be a witness, and I think both regard it as important and something they want to do. I recommended them over Helpern because he is egotistical, opinionated, makes unscientific assumptions that are wrong, and has taken public positions he would have difficulty reconciling with reality if he ever looks into it.

Over the weekend I will get more done and will send you copies for comment and suggestion.

Penn is off on one of his impulsive, emotional things. He has been really and successfully worked on by Bailey to the point where he justifies all the many errors Lee made and even believes that the staff was feeding Jim some kind of docile pills to make him a Manchurian non-candidate. It is simply incredible. He is sowing discord and then says we are hopelessly fractioned. I hope he does nothing irresponsible he will later have cause to regret. He tells me Percy Foreman has agreed to act as Shaw's counsel, which will, automatically, get a long delay in the trial. I had a trusted newsmen phone Foreman, who refused to affirm or deny, pretended to be or was madm (which may all be an act). Dymond was explicit in his denial. He says he is ready for trial. We'll see. But it is unusual that Dymond and the Wegmanns have had no motions.

We're due for the kind of weather you do not have out there but are familiar with, snow. I hasn't warmed up to freezing in more than a week. Best regards to everyone,

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg